

Ballard Civic Center Park Community Meeting #2

January 13, 2004

How Will You And Your Family Use This Park?

- Walkers
- No skaters/skates overpower
- Skaters are respectful
- Bowl is valuable
- Active park vs. passive park
- Like activity to watch such as skating
- Want Bathroom
- Want home for historic special events
- Outdoor jazz festival/any music
- Cultural events/outdoor arts bowl
- Small Fountain
- Barbeque Pits
- Skate contests
- Art for kids w/library
- Water flowing into ground
- Street Skate plaza north of bowl
- A peaceful and harmonious co-existence of skaters and non skaters
- Place to sit and watch activities (climbing wall, skating people watching etc.
- Movies
- Bands/music
- Multiple music stages
- Combine plan 1 & 3. Keep the bowl separate
- Walk dog
- Place to maneuver/hang out
- I would like to have the passersby be able to acknowledge, appreciate and encourage what they see every day.
- After Golden Gardens, there was this site-temporary. We need a permanent site for a concrete skate park.
- Multi-generational, morals, hobbies and tradition

How Can The Park Be A Good Neighbor to Ballard?

- Relocation of skate parks makes good neighbor #2 preferred
- This location of skate park contributes to it's success
- Less activities, make safe, clean green place to be
- #3 skate bowl/climbing area provides sight lines to prevent illegal activities
- If not here, where – skate park
- Like #3, skate bowl, climbing wall together
- Fountain – Norse home
- Impact on parking in the neighborhood
- Restroom
- Would like skate facility
- Skate facility – not a good neighbor
- Promised temporary facility – not intended to remain
- Find alternate location
- Library - access thru park important
- Skate facility is a good neighbor – intergenerational activities
- Artwork edifying and complement whole area
- Likes #3 – unified, likes arch uses entire space
- #1 – does not like enlarged sidewalks and reduction of green edges
- Likes walls around gathering areas
- Skate facility and climbing wall
 1. good neighbor to businesses
 2. active – offers more to different generations
- Delineation of different areas/activities preferred
- #3 is disaster for neighbors with skate park in current locations
- Cuts them off due to grade
- Lots of new residents – could be overused
- Noise issue of skating for neighbors
- Ballard in this area is not a quiet part of town
- Skateboarding benefits neighboring businesses
- Increases sense of security – people in park make safer
- Bring new residents/more visitor \$\$\$ to Ballard
- Keep skaters out of commercial areas and in a designated skate park
- Run off from QFC development and bowl could be used for a water feature
- Underground parking to eliminate programming issues

What Activities and Events Do You Envision Happening?

- Summer concerts
- Concerts evening and noon
- Prefer curved flow paths for pleasure walking
- To demolish the bowl seems economically irresponsible
- Keep the skating please!
- Some theater, plays – maybe movies
- Climbing wall
- How about impromptu art installations (like Magnuson Park)
- Tai Chi
- Tie the parade through here somehow

The following comments were handed in at the meeting or mailed on comment sheets within a week after the meeting

1.How will you and your family use the park?

Sleeping, eating, hanging out, reading, concerts, young children will use until they leave home -- skatepark yes! I hope my husband can teach our children to skate there when they are old enough! Also to play with kids-watch activities-ect.

Regular visits, meeting friends, active events and festivals, art appreciation, people watching summer sun and water enjoyment

Destination on a Saturday walk. Meeting people-attending events post-movie strolls

2.What activities and events

Concerts, chess games, craft fairs, community events, skateboard contests

Skating! Picnics and parties (b-day ect.) Small gatherings/activities/performance sitting quietly, readings, ect.

Summer art, theater, music events

Food festivals-the seafood restaurant films

3.Good neighbor?

Security lighting, "friend of the park", curfew, close and gate skatepark at night Provide a place for all types of people to come together. Different users at different times/reasons provide more "eyes on park".

Be open to all!
Keep it picked up and find maintenance costs low consider interpreting storm water retention through art. Bird Habitat

4.Alternatives

#3 I would like to retain bowl and street skating features to accommodate young and older skaters alike

I like #3-preserve the existing skate bowl which is hugely popular. Yes, to an active water feature, not the suggestion of water. Lose the comfort station (the library/NSC provides that) Save the maintenance for the water feature.

Alternative #3 is a fluid, organic-more trees for wildlife-the trees better birds

<p>11 year old -meet friends, 14 year old-skateboard/basketball, meet up 43 year old-walk through/sit, concerts, speeches, people watch 54 year old-read, chess, basketball, fairs, politics-Grandkids playing in water feature</p> <p>Play and watch my brother skate in the bowl Our child usually comes to the park daily to skate. If the bowl remains we will be able to join him and relax on the grass and observe him.</p>	<p>Quiet time reflection, art, festivals (1,000), political speeches/music(250-500) meet friends, watch people</p> <p>Skating, watching skating and playing stuff</p>	<p>1. Let QFC put a café at their SE corner 2. QFC townhouses at W.edge (setback for public walk) 12' minimum 3. Have activities for all ages-no exclusion 4. Be safe/maintained/clean-fun(program events w/chamber and others</p>	<p>Prefer #C-closest to my desires A)don't like central play zone...like congregated activities and south end (channel/water feature!) skating-like north forest and meadow-raised up/separated</p>
<p>Don't relocate the skaters</p>	<p>#2 it's the best one</p>		
<p>:As a meeting space :As a smooth, relaxed, relief and walk through from blocks of building : coffee and reading spot : place to visit farmers market : watch the skate dudes</p>	<p>Skating, Frisbee, reading, relaxing</p>	<p>Keep the bowl it means so much to so many people</p>	<p>#2 it is inclusive None. Well, the master plan is the best. Don't try so hard. The M.P. can put the skate where it exists. The restroom from #1, works with QFC , it balances with library and is relaxed all at the same time. Alt #1 amount of lawn-not as segmented- one overall idea-more off center. Use restroom as back drop to amphitheater #2 don't like at all - too chopped up and not cohesive #3 incorporates skate park-but not good lawn spaces.</p>
<p>To walk through on my way to town and occasionally have a coffee there.</p>	<p>Walking, sitting, watching, skating : Farmers market</p>	<p>Be a place to meet at, one that is fun to pass time at. Work with QFC !!! Plan for the future, Ballard is changing. Be a maritime park: Masts, bollards, docks, hulls, rust, teak-Ballard is not Woodinville</p>	<p>Alt #1 amount of lawn-not as segmented- one overall idea-more off center. Use restroom as back drop to amphitheater #2 don't like at all - too chopped up and not cohesive #3 incorporates skate park-but not good lawn spaces.</p>
<p>A quiet place to walk through and pause to feed a squirrel or a bird, to watch a child play, an old man play chess, women yakking and to notice things</p>	<p>Planned community events-farmer's market, concerts part of the artwork. Skateboarding-all ages and levels. People walking. Legal wall @skate park to be annual art contest event Active and passive depending in the time of day.</p>	<p>Support the adjacent commercial uses, provide for all, use native plant materials and sustainable technologies</p>	<p>Please publish the zip codes of those participating in these discussions and make sure the thoughts of the immediate neighbors are given top priority.</p>
<p>Skateboarding and walking the dog</p>	<p>Frisbee throwing, reading, checkers, chess, small children play, acoustical concerts. Lunch or just walking through a pleasant space, birds, squirrels and yoga time.</p>	<p>Quiet, especially at night a "walk to " park. No activities people drive to. Iterate with adjacent residential development.</p>	<p>The 3rd option with the Bowl intact. Get rid of the water structure and add restrooms. It seems like this option was only provided for the appearance of</p>
	<p>Recreational sports-some small festivals</p>	<p>By providing something for everyone</p>	

consideration though. It doesn't appear that whoever makes the final decision on this public park will actually consider leaving the bowl in place.

Relaxation. Watch skateboarding!

Skate! Gathering/performance space.

The Ballard Bowl is a world class Bowl/Skate Park. Don't take away something that brings people to Ballard and Seattle. Provides an outdoor place to read and a place to have a casual coffee etc. It provides an alternative place to go besides the lochs and Golden Gardens etc.

#3 Keep the Skate Bowl

It like both green and pied areas. Green is associated with a park, paved modern art/a place to sit, waterworks etc.

To walk to relax, read the paper, listen to music etc.
Sleeping, eating, hanging out, reading, concerts, young children will use until they leave home -- skate park yes!

Small concerts, possibly small theater acts and art shows.

Concerts, chess games, craft fairs, community events, skateboard contests

Security lighting, "friend of the park", curfew, close and gate skate park at night

#3 I would like to retain bowl and street skating features to accommodate young and older skaters alike
#2 relocated skate area not far from square "Ballard Square"

Read, rest, ponder and people watch-converse

Skate, talking, conversation, games-checkers-more like "Hyde Park".

Open to all-ages-restroom. It should be a place people can go to for peace and quiet so they may read, relax, get suntanned and hold conversations! It should be a relaxing place to meet and greet one's neighbors-which means no skateboarders

Sit in the sunshine and quiet while eating my lunch.

Mothers walking children. People sitting and talking

I like Alt #1 with curved design and access in all four directions

Eat lunch, read and relax

Children playing, people sitting, talking and reading etc.

Alt. #1
Alternative #2 and #3 (with the existing "Seattle Bowl" features) are the most inclusive and accommodating. Kids need places to proactive their activities without being made into criminals

As gathering places for activity(non-passive) and socializing. A place of relaxation and community.

Multiple uses at multiple times for a wide spectrum of users. I would love to see the skateboarders feature retained. Have proper bathroom facilities, theaters and musical events. As would a grass areas for stretching and reading. Music/cultural events, urban art expos (the art graffiti "as a nuisance" by providing a free art space t paint for youth)
Successful example- Fern wood Community Center Victoria B.C.
Urban art expos, skate contests

The park can ve a good neighbor by being a sage, active user friendly design with proper maintenance and design. The more people who are able to use the park, the more the community can embrace it!

Be pedestrian friendly: provide access from library. Have volunteer maintenance crews. Develop adopt-a- park for new park.

I like the access of the Square>>but the flow of the Arch. But I like the Ballard bowl the way that it is.

Quiet space (reading)-
Skateboarding, event planning

		<p>People will need to be patient about the park being built. But all in all it will be for the better: Bringing more people to shops and the library. Other parks usage I don't think will be a problem. Because probably most people who are using the Park will most likely be people from the neighborhood.</p>	
<p>As my children get older, I see them using the park as a meeting place with their friends. Until then, we will meet family friends there. Also, my children can be enjoying their books from the library at the park while I'm at the drug store. A skateboard park allows for many different activities for all ages: skateboarding, biking, roller blading and watching my family could use it for all of their activities. Much more versatile than the usual children's playground.</p>	<p>I see a May Pole for Spring, A sooner fest, and a huge organic farmers market in honor of Fall and the Harvest. Also a Skate boarding contest! And maybe races!!</p>	<p>I like the Oval plan and the Arch round shapes seem more inviting, and friendly. I like the skateboard area however, I think it would be adjusted and lowered if it remains at it's present location. I'm concerned that it will not blend in with the QFC lot development in the future if it is left just as is.</p>	
	<p>My daughter suggests a May Pole in the Spring. Group performances. A Winter festival. Basketball playing. Solstice and Equinox gatherings.</p>	<p>I think that the Friends of Ballard Commons will become active in all issues and concerns related to all neighbors in Ballard, including businesses, parks, and the library. The Park will be a unifying force for Ballard.</p>	
	<p>Walking, sitting, singing, dancing, listening, talking, skateboarding, riding, rolling, lying down. Plays, concerts, festivals, skateboard competition.</p>	<p>It can be a place people want to gather at a place people want to be. In this way, surrounding businesses are helped, neighbors get to join each other and there is a lively center to the Ballard neighborhood.</p>	<p>I prefer # 3, the Arch, as it keeps the skate bowl and also integrates it well with the rest of the park. It has more defined areas and so it was the space more effectively. Alternative #3 because</p>
<p>I will likely sit in the park after church, chat with friends, watch skateboarders and climbers. I will bring grandchildren to try out the climbing wall (assuming there are spots easy enough for 6-12 years old) I would meet friends there to go bicycling on the Burke Gilman. St. Luke's is my church-I am there at least 2xweekly-and I anticipate the enhanced beauty of the area.</p>	<p>Groups of 10to 20 people beginning or ending bicycle tips or "Volr Walk" there. Sunday and holiday afternoon mini concerts like those at Ballard Locks not amplified) Maybe small wedding or birthday celebration. Lots of people reading, taking lunch breaks, watching, talking with friends maybe some seniors playing badminton or croquet. (Maybe a "built in checkerboard)</p>	<p>There must be adequate parking for residents, church goers, businesses as well as park users. Full accessibility for wheelchairs and strollers. Frequent trash pick up in montip containers. Lighting sensitive to/not keeping awake apartment dwellers all night. Bike racks, skate boarders must have direct street access to bowl for safety of seniors and small kids using the park on foot. Secured benches and features to prevent disruption.</p>	<p>1. It has skateboard and climbing (fun to watch) but these are not central to the park. 2. Curved shaped areas are very desirable in urban areas where most of what you see are rectangles-beauty and contrast make an oasis. 3. Curved shapes and walkways discourage shortcuts across the park by people not interested in it, not going some place fast.</p>
<p>Watch skaterboarders, eat food that we purchase somewhere</p>	<p>No communication please. No vendor, no advertising, concerts, demonstrations, yard sales for</p>	<p>Put as much greenery as possible and as little landscaping as possible.</p>	<p>Don't raise grade @ south west in alternative concept 3 it</p>

else.	non-projects		will be less expensive to lower the existing facility. The wall in concept 3 divides the park. Concept 3 is the best. I like design #2 and #3. I would prefer design #2. The square because it has more appeal to it. The curvilinear lines of both the both arch and oval diagrams. There should be restroom at home? Skate Park sonds like a great idea (I'm ot a skater). I think skaters wold be so thrilled to have a facility for their sport that they'd maintain it and not cause neighbors trouble since they'd have their own space to skate area. I'd like to view as a non-skater. Oval is too ordinary- I've been to this park in lots of cities. Square : too pointy. I want curves, but"rooms are good feature. My favorite-good combo of open and intimate. Ramp to bowl maybe too high. A hybrid is likely. Don't need large lawns. The locks have large lawns, which the Geese love. Amphitheater - Yes! Sidewalk seating zone- yes- How about adding som family size hammocks? How about Solar Panels? A Demo
Open to many activities. Walking spirit etc.	Sports teaching children to be a team player.	Promotes physical well being.	
To view skating activities and to play games (frisbee,etc.) on the lawn. Also to attend local events (live music, mostly) Some picnics.	Live music in amphitheater, people sitting on benches, children playing (either on lawn and or playground) and an activity-basketball court, skate park, etc. Sounds, noise, life! People lookimg for qa quiet setting can enjoy it across the street at the library.	The popularity of skating will generate an immediate use of the park if skate facilities are included. Locating the skatepark on an edge or in a corner is a great way to prevent it from "taking over" the park.	
Pass through several times per day enrout to retail dist. Stroll and linger:fresh air, long vista people watch. Bring friends to show off the "hood" Enjoy watching and conversing with the skaters.	Prefered toute (pass through) to other destinations. Quiet time and sit/stand with small groups. PNB meetings and small events up to 100 people. Possible festivals/market but these have crowds to large-skaters.	Clean and green, not a haven for alcoholics. Open, casual feel with formal elements.	
Do Yoga outdoors-flat pavement or grass. Relax, people watch. Flirt?	I would love to see a Sauna we can use, instead of having to drive to Queen Anne Pool for a Sauna. Honor Scandanavian traditions-SAUNA is healthy.	Lots of events that are fun and easy to join in on.	

Which Alternatives Do You Like Best And Why?

- Keep the bowl – Likes 2&3
- Likes the raised area @ bowl
- Likes 3 because it keeps ex. Bowl
- Likes wall separating bowl & amphitheater
- Likes restrooms in all
- Likes and active park – helps people interact – get along – communicate
- Activity makes it safer
- #1 seems to have less activity
- Is there enough skate space to maintain the activity?
- How many people can fit in each of these options?
- Concern about vehicle capacity
- Likes the tree massing & activity log in #3
- Would like #3 better with bowl moved a little east

- Where is the shadowing of a future "built-out" 57th (65' ht?)
- Why does 2&3 put skate closer to future residential?
- Roof mitigates noise
- It would be a shame to lose the bowl
- Need appropriate scheduling to avoid conflicts between active stuff and amphitheater.
- Hybridize 2&3 – 2 is too angular
- We want an active park!
- Skaters will be a good constant presence
- Likes #2 – this isn't a pastoral park
- Doesn't like the grade separation sidewalk – to – bowl
- Doesn't want a water wasting fountain
- Likes putting skate to edges to leave good large spaces
- Wants to see performance possibilities
- Live music
- If the bowl is moved & rebuilt, the contractor needs to be qualified
- Likes #1 "arcade" and connections
- Keep it flexible! #1 appears most flexible.
- Skaters self police their spot
- Skaters don't like graffiti
- Create a paint wall for annual art
- Why no bathroom at #3?
- Slope at #3 looks like more skating
- Likes the elevation of #2
- Likes using the bowl to support climbing
- Likes #3 (where's the bathroom?) add a corner like #1 (57th/22nd)